

An Old Song

**Collected by: Peggy Josephine Padden.
Carrowkerribla, Attymass, Ballina, Co. Mayo.**

**Collected from: John Gilboy (Farmer aged 77 yrs)
Drom Scoba, Foxford, Co. Mayo.**

Bonnifinglas NS

There was a squire in Eddenburg town
And a squire of high degree
He courted a country girl
And a comely girl was she
When her father came to hear of it
An angry man was he
And he requested his daughter dear
To shun his company

There was a farmer in the East
He had one only son
He courted a country girl
Till he thought he had her, one and all
He got consent from father and mother
From young and old likewise
But still she cried I am undone
As the tears rolled down her eyes

She wrote her true loves love letters
And cealed it with her hand
And told him she was going to get wed
Unto a farmers son
The very first line that he looked oer
He smiled and this did say
I might deprive him off his bride

Then he looked East and he looked West
And looked all round his land
Mounted up a score of men
All of a Scottish Clann
He mounted them on white steeds
And a single man rode he
And off to the wedding house he did go
With his company dressed in green

You are welcome, you are welcome
What kept you out so late
Or did you see the gentleman
That passed along this way
He laughed at them, he scoffed at them
He smiled and this did say
The full of my glass of new port wine
And drank to the company's play
Happy is the man he says that calls him the groom
Far happier is the man he says that would enjoy a bride
Another might like her as well as he
And take her from his side

Then up steps the intended groom
An angry man was he
If it's for fight that you came here
It's not for fight that I came
But friendship for to show
If you give me one kiss from your bonny, bonny bride
And away from you I'll go

He took her by the lilly white-hand
And by the grass-green sleeve
And brought her out of the wedding house
Didn't ask the company's leave
The drums did beat the bugles sound
Most glorious to be seen
And off to Eddenburg he did go
With his company dressed in green